



**Link:** [http://loudounseac.org/wiki/November\\_11,\\_2020](http://loudounseac.org/wiki/November_11,_2020)

**The QR Code/link provides access to:**

- The presentation slides,
- The ability to ask the presenter questions,
- Sign in as a PTA/PTO Representative, SEAC member or the public.
- SEAC Business Meeting materials

# SEAC Meeting

# November 11, 2020



The **Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)** works alongside parents, students, educators, staff and the school board to identify needs, suggest improvements, and advance the interests of students receiving special education services in Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) to help ensure that students with disabilities have access to and receive an appropriate, individualized and inclusive public education.

The Role of SEAC



## THE ROLE OF SEAC AND VIRGINIA REGULATIONS

The Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia reflect the state and federal requirements for the provision of special education and related services. The regulations mandate that an active SEAC exists, as well as specific functions of the SEAC, as specified by Section 8VAC20-81-230 D.2, which are as follows:

1. Advise the local school division of needs in the education of students with disabilities;
2. Participate in the development of priorities and strategies for meeting the identified needs of students with disabilities;
3. Submit periodic reports and recommendations regarding the education of students with disabilities to the division superintendent for transmission to the local school board;
4. Assist the local school division in interpreting plans to the community for meeting the special needs of students with disabilities for educational services;
5. Review the policies and procedures for the provision of special education and related services prior to submission to the local school board; and
6. Participate in the review of the local school division's annual plan.



## The Role of SEAC



## SEAC Leadership:

SEAC Chair

SEAC Immediate Past Chair

SEAC Vice Chair Planning

SEAC Vice Chair Membership

SEAC Vice Chair Communications

SEAC Secretary

Sharon Tropf

Dr. Carol Williams-Nickelson

Shehnaz Khan

Heidi Bunkua

Craig Metz

Kathryn Rosenbrook

[SEACChair@lcps.org](mailto:SEACChair@lcps.org)

[SEACPastChair@lcps.org](mailto:SEACPastChair@lcps.org)

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[SEACSecretary@lcps.org](mailto:SEACSecretary@lcps.org)

LCPS Staff Liaison

School Board Liaison

Dr. Patricia Nelson

Beth Barts

[Patricia.d.Nelson@lcps.org](mailto:Patricia.d.Nelson@lcps.org)

[Beth.Barts@lcps.org](mailto:Beth.Barts@lcps.org)

# Introduction of SEAC Officers and Liaisons



# Public Comment



- SEAC uses public feedback to inform our work to advise School Board on special education needs
- **Focus on system-wide issues**, rather than individual concerns or specific situations (*please do not use student or staff names*)
- Verbal comment may be given. **Please complete and submit comment form tonight (please be sure to follow-up with SEAC Secretary with your written comment)**
- Written comment may be read by author or SEAC Chair
- Remarks limited to 3 minutes

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- ## Highlights for Students with Disabilities

- October 13 return for some students on the Aligned Standards of Learning (ASOL) for 2 in person days.
- October 27 return of K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade whose parents chose hybrid model.
- CAST students returned 4 days per week

# SEAC Chair Report

## Annual Report:

December 1, 2020 – Present to the School Board

- Students with Disabilities are LCPS largest minority group
- Equity, transparency, and open communication remain top issues

## SEAC Survey

- 2017 115
- 2018 568
- 2019 822
- 2020 2953 total (1844 Complete and 1109 Incomplete)

Both Spanish and English

### Grade Level

### Responses

### Percentage

Early childhood special education

258

8.9

Elementary school

1379

47.57

Middle school

619

21.35

High school

643

22.18





# SEAC Chair Report

Annual Report (cont.):

In 2019-2020 there were approximately 9,666 students receiving special education services through LCPS. This is 11-12% of the entire LCPS student population, and under the national average for students receiving special education services.

Disability Designation	Response	Percentage	LCPS %
Specific Learning Disability (SLD)	932	34.61	28.95
Other Health Impairment (OHI)	372	13.81	20.78
Autism Spectrum Disorder	560	20.79	16.91
Emotional Disturbance	116	4.31	7.58
Speech or Language Impairment	276	10.25	11.82
Visual Impairment, including blindness	12	0.45	.40
Deaf-Blindness	9	0.33	
Hearing Impairment	27	1	1.25
Orthopedic Impairment	8	0.3	.42
Intellectual Disability	99	3.68	3.58
Traumatic Brain Injury	6	0.22	.14
Multiple Disabilities	80	2.97	.82
Developmental Delay	196	7.28	7.24





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District	Responses	Percentage
Sterling District	323	12
Algonkian District	136	5.05
Ashburn District	748	27.8
Blue Ridge District	314	11.67
Broad Run District	89	3.31
Catoctin District	179	6.65
Dulles District	413	15.35
Leesburg District	489	18.17

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## Positives:

- ## Unified Mental Health Teams –

## Fully Staffed at the Secondary Level

Additional Staff Training at the Secondary (middle and high school) level for recognizing signs of depression and suicide.

# SEAC Chair Report



Annual Report (cont.):

## Areas for Improvement:

- **Transition:** How well do you feel your student is prepared for his/her transition from high school?

	Responses	Percentage
Very prepared	45	11
Prepared	186	45.48
Not prepared	133	32.52
Not at all prepared	45	11

## Does you Child Have a Transition Plan:

	Responses	Percentage
Yes	440	35.43
No	802	64.57

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### Transition Areas for Improvement:

- ## Accessibility:

- No procedures for ensuring accessibility to instructional materials – ongoing issue
- Inclusive practices – utilizing Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in our classrooms

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**Literacy Instruction** (reading, writing, spelling and handwriting):

- # Identification after 3<sup>rd</sup> grade leads to students requiring basic reading instruction in the middle and high schools

Students are expected to read to learn by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. LCPS has the tools but is not using them to the fullest extent.

# SEAC Chair Report

Annual Report (cont.):

## Restraint & Seclusion:

- SEAC does not support allowing the use of seclusion in LCPS Schools
- Lack of Mental Health supports for students traumatized by using seclusion

Number of Instances of Seclusion			
Year	Students without Disabilities	Students with Disabilities	Students with 504 Plan
SY 2017-18	0	13	0
SY 2018-19	0	57	0
SY 2019-20	0	9	0

Number of Instances of Mechanical Restraint			
Year	Students without Disabilities	Students with Disabilities	Students with 504 Plan
SY 2017-18	0	1	0
SY 2018-19	0	2	0
SY 2019-20	1	2	0

- 2018-2019 SY Children Secluded Under Age 9: 71%
- Underreporting due to the current definition of seclusion – if another person is in the room, even though the student is not permitted to leave the area, seclusion is not reported, due to not meeting definition.



# SEAC Chair Report

Annual Report (cont.):

## Behavior

- Disparity in Suspension Rates:

Student Group/Statistic	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	(Unofficial)2019-20
SPED Suspension Rate	2.53%	3.08%	3.03%	3.32%	1.98%
Students without Disabilities Suspension Rate	0.60%	0.67%	0.74%	0.79%	0.50%
Overall Suspension Rate	0.82%	0.95%	1.00%	1.10%	0.68%

# inclusion

high-quality positive everyone change  
 capacity compassion accountability teachers LRE students empowerment teamwork focus  
 quality access commitment growth acceptance diversity equity instruction outcomes collaboration honesty training respect  
 responsive effective fair high communication success understanding embrace  
 change support awareness re-thinking Yahoo community current student-centered professional collaboration training honesty respect  
 education outcomes collaboration training honesty respect  
 challenge-set open-minded opportunity society  
 communication success understanding embrace  
 improvement mental educators



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## Equity:

- Title II of the ADA
- Section 504
- Home/School Communication
- Staffing
- Continuum of Special Education – restrictions placed on IEP teams
- IEP Services: lack of delivery efficacy for high school and middle school

# SEAC Chair Report



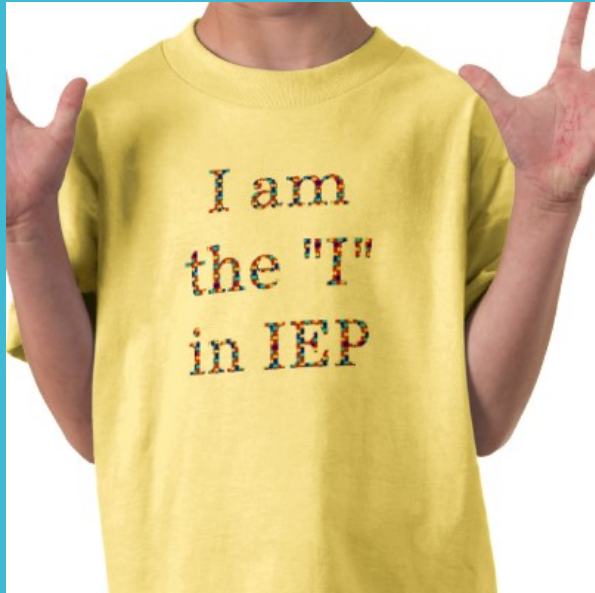
## SEAC Current Work:

### Membership

- PTA/PTO Representatives and Member Training  
27 Schools with PTA/PTO Representatives (70 are needed)  
16 members – 5 open membership positions

Membership application and SEAC bylaws are on the LCPS website on the SEAC page

# SEAC Chair Report



## SEAC Current Work (cont.):

### Upcoming Events:

- **December 7-11, 2020:** Inclusive Schools Week; Theme: the time for INCLUSION is now
- Saturday Morning Coffee's

### Equity Committee

- First Thursday of the Month at 5:30 p.m.
- Craig Metz is our SEAC Representative

# SEAC Chair Report



SEAC Current Work (cont.):

## Subcommittee Formation

- SEAC has 3 standing Committees
- Policy and Compliance
- Specialized Programs and Services
- Executive Functioning and Social-Emotional Learning

## Executive Committee Meeting

- November 23, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.
- Redline of Bylaws is in progress
- Training video has been completed and being reviewed for final edits.

# SEAC Chair Report



**SEAC Current Work (cont.):**

## **KEEP IN TOUCH:**

Twitter @loudounseac

Facebook loudounseac

WWW [www.loudounseac.org](http://www.loudounseac.org)

# **2020-2021 School Year SEAC MEETINGS**

**December 2, 2020**

**Transition Services for Developing Workplace and  
Independent Living Skills**

Presented by Marianne Moore, VDOE  
Partnered with DBVI and DARS

**January 6, 2021**

**School Anxiety**

Presented by Dr. Jonathan Dalton, Director  
The Center for Anxiety and Behavioral Change

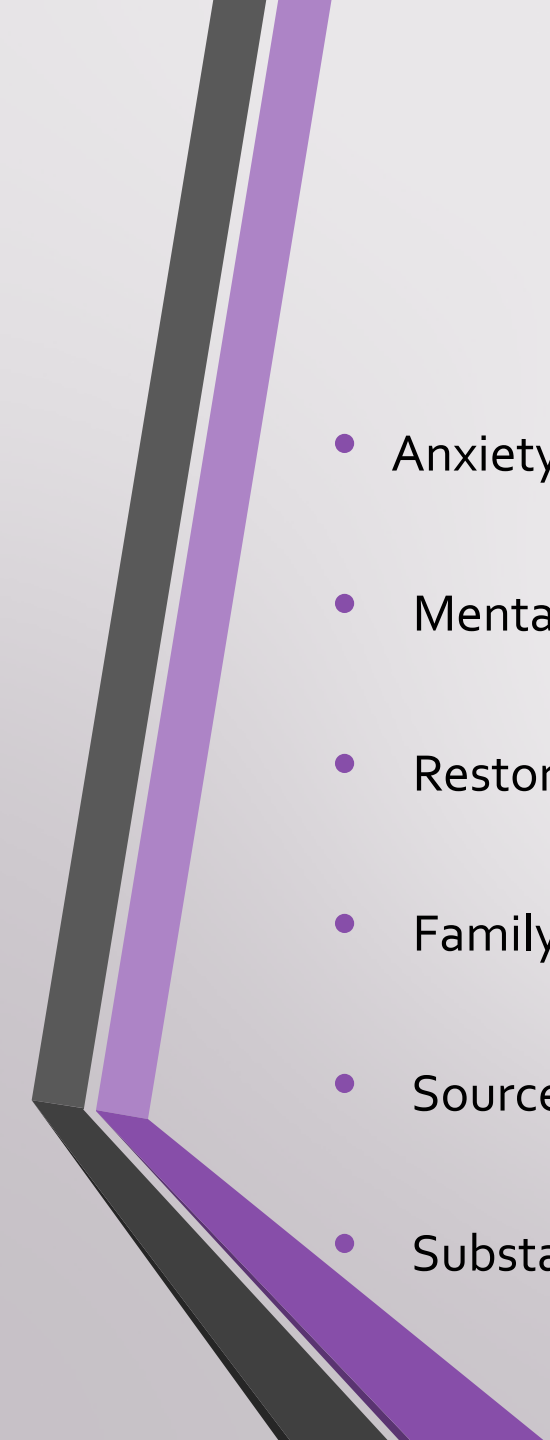


# PRS Special Education Workshops

## 2020 - 2021

- Becoming an Effective Communication Partner for Students Learning Language Using Augmentative/Alternative Communication (ACC)
- Deeper Dive into “How To” Set Expectations
- Deeper Dive into “How To” Reinforce
- Diploma Options
- Executive Functioning
- High School Connection
- Kindergarten Connection
- Middle School Connection
- Prompts and Prompt Fading
- Social Emotional Competence
- Where Can I Find Resources to Help My Child Use Technology?





# Department of Pupil Services: Mental Health and Wellness Parent Series 2020-2021

- Anxiety/School Refusal
- Mental and Physical Health Connection
- Restorative Practices—Family Power
- Family Partnerships with Social-Emotional Learning
- Sources of Strength—Mini Training Session
- Substance Use and Prevention

# How Do I Contact Parent Resource Services?

- Loudoun County Public School Administrative Building  
21000 Education Court, Ashburn, VA 20148
- 571-252-6540
- Leanne Kidwell – [Leanne.Kidwell@lcps.org](mailto:Leanne.Kidwell@lcps.org)
- Pam Spiering – [Pamala.Spiering@lcps.org](mailto:Pamala.Spiering@lcps.org)
- [Lcps.org/ParentResourceServices](https://lcps.org/ParentResourceServices)
- Like Us on Facebook: LCPS Parent Resource Services
- Follow Us on Twitter: @LCPS\_PRS

# Reports Updates and Announcements

A red rectangular stamp with a double border, containing the word "UPDATE" in bold, red, sans-serif capital letters.

## School Board Liaison, Beth Barts

- The School Board meets at 4:00 every second and fourth Tuesdays.
- The public can visit the School Board page on the LCPS website to see a listing of emails and phone numbers for their individual district representative along with the At-Large. The entire Board can be emailed at [lcsb@lcps.org](mailto:lcsb@lcps.org).

## Current Special Education Issues:

- On December 1st students in grades 3-5 and seniors at AET and AOS who selected hybrid in July will return to in person learning.
- November 11th - 20th will be the window for parents to select the HYBRID or DL choice for the second semester. ***This will be binding for the second semester.***

# Reports Updates and Announcements

A red rectangular stamp with a double border, containing the word "UPDATE" in bold, red, sans-serif capital letters.

## School Board Liaison, Beth Barts cont.

- On January 21st LCPS will enter Stage 4 and all students in LCPS will be in their requested platform from their November choice. *At the secondary level this will be concurrent instruction.*
- At the elementary level this will be separate DL and Hybrid teachers.
- Principals will be having virtual town halls or similar outreach events during the choice window that will share what concurrent teaching will look like at the secondary level in their child's particular building. This is to help parents make an educated choice.
- Modifications to social distancing on buses and in classroom desk layouts may be needed in order to meet the demand for hybrid.

# Reports Updates and Announcements



## Office of Special Education

Dr. Patricia Nelson, Director of Special Education

## Department of Pupil Services

Dr. Asia Jones, Assistance Superintendent of Pupil Services

# Business



## Nominating Committee:

SEAC bylaws indicate that we must form a slate of candidates and formally elect the executive committee (EC) for each school year, from May to May.

Below is the candidate slate for the 2020-2021 school year, as we had no new volunteers who are able to serve in this capacity:

Chair:	Sharon Tropf
Vice Chair, Planning:	Shehnaz Khan
Vice Chair, Membership:	Heidi Bunkua
Vice Chair, Communications:	Craig Metz
Secretary:	Kathryn Rosenbrook

# Business



## **Special Education Task Force:**

Identified four key areas of immediate SPED concern:

1. New needs based on recent past / regression
2. Learning the technology / technology issues
3. Creating a continuum of educational / service options

Identified three key levels of concern with LCPS DL:

1. Improving accessibility of existing DL
2. Transforming and individualizing DL for access
3. Services for students who are unable to access DL





Thank you!